I feel that it is extremely important to include technology in the classroom because of the many different positive effects it has on the students’ ability to learn and grasp concepts. Teaching students using technology allows different types of learners to be able to understand a topic. Students who are visual learners can see the information on the white board and on their computers. This will help them be able to focus and obtain the information being taught. Students who are auditory learners can hear videos, recorded lectures, and stories on the computer so they can obtain the information being taught. Students who are physical learners can be taught by having the students come up to the whiteboard to fill in answer blanks, match concepts, or write responses. This will get them out of their seat and use their hands to learn the information.

Also, technology allows teachers to be able to record a lesson plan and post it online for students. This way, if a student was unclear about a topic or missed something that the teacher said, they can go online and review the lesson and what the teacher said and have a second chance at learning the information. Teachers can also have virtual fieldtrips for their students when funding or field trips are inaccessible. Students can still learn the concepts in different ways other than listening to their teacher all day. With virtual fieldtrips, students can interactively research information and access activities that one may find at a museum. With technology, students have more options in which they can present their knowledge instead of writing papers all of the time. For example, students can use audacity to record a podcast summary of an article they have read. They could also use moviemaker to create their own short story, add sound effects and pictures to it and then present their story to the class. The students will enjoy creating stories and using different ways to express their knowledge much better than sitting at their desk all day writing essays. Technology is also important because the use of technology has exploded since the beginning of the century. Students must be able to be familiar with the different technological advances that they may use in their future career.

**Compared to my original opinions on technology, I feel the same way about the important of technology in the classroom. However, I still am a strong believer in making sure students are still able to write in print and cursive. Students or anyone for that matter should not rely totally on technology to get anything done. This class has shown me many different ways to express my knowledge and show off my creative side to my fellow classmates. I learned how to use audacity, moviemaker, and wikispaces. I was also introduced to the CAST website which will be very helpful in my future lesson planning because I have all of the standards available to me. As a result of this class, I have great new ways to present information in future classes instead of the “same, old, boring” PowerPoint. I am extremely glad that I took this class because of all the tools I have been able to add to my “teaching tool belt.”**